

CLAIMS

1. A video recording and reproducing apparatus comprising:

at least one image recording means for
5 recording a video input;

randomly accessible data storage means for
storing the images recorded in said image recording
means;

image synthesizing means for synthesizing
10 in one screen a plurality of images read out from said
data storage means; and

information processing means for
controlling said data storage means and said image
synthesizing means;

15 wherein said information processing means
controls said data storage means and said image
synthesizing means in such a manner that a plurality of
images recorded in said image recording means at
different time points are read from said data storage
20 means and synthesized and displayed in a single screen by
said image synthesizing means.

2. A video recording and reproducing apparatus
according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of said images
recorded at different time points are a plurality of
25 image contents recorded at different time points or a
plurality of images recorded at different time points in
a given one image content.

3. A video recording and reproducing apparatus
according to claim 1, further comprising user interface
30 means interposed between said information processing
means and the user, wherein the special reproduction
functions including at least selected one of rapid feed
and pause are performed on the image contents selected
arbitrarily through said user interface means.

35 4. A video recording and reproducing apparatus
according to claim 1, further comprising user interface
means interposed between said information processing

means and the user, wherein a plurality of the image contents stored in said data storage means are converted into a data base capable of being searched and sorted, and at least one of the image contents included in a group of image contents searched for and sorted from said data base and reproduced and synthesized at the same time is displayed in a single screen in accordance with the information input from said user interface means.

5. A video recording and reproducing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising user interface means interposed between said information processing means and the user, wherein the image contents selected through said user interface means are changed to other image contents and the resulting image contents are displayed in a single screen by being synthesized with the image contents under generation.

6. A video recording and reproducing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising sound select means and user interface means interposed between said information processing means and the user, wherein said sound select means outputs only the sound corresponding to the image contents reproduced in the reproduction display area selected by said user interface means.

7. A video recording and reproducing method comprising the steps of:
recording an image by at least one image recording means;

storing the image recorded by said image recording means in randomly accessible data storage means; and

reading a plurality of images recorded at different time points from said data storage means, and synthesizing and displaying said images in a single screen.

8. A video recording and reproducing method according to claim 7, wherein a plurality of said images recorded at different time points are a plurality of

image contents recorded at different time points or a plurality of images recorded at different time points in a given one image content.

5 9. A video recording and reproducing method according to claim 7, wherein the special reproducing functions including at least one of rapid feed and pause are performed on the image contents selected arbitrarily through user interface means.

10 10. A video recording and reproducing method according to claim 7, wherein a plurality of the image contents stored in said data storage means are converted into a data base capable of being searched and sorted, at least one of the image contents included in a group of image contents searched for and sorted from said data
15 base and reproduced and synthesized at the same time is displayed in a single screen in accordance with the information input from said user interface means.

20 11. A video recording and reproducing method according to claim 7, wherein the image contents selected through said user interface means are changed to other image contents and the resulting image contents are synthesized with the image contents under generation and displayed in a single screen.

25 12. A video recording and reproducing method according to claim 7, wherein only the sound corresponding to the image contents reproduced in the reproduction display area selected by said user interface means is output.

30 13. A recording medium for storing a program readable by an information processing unit, wherein said program comprises the steps of:

recording an image by at least one image recording means;

35 storing the image recorded by said image recording means in randomly accessible data storage means; and

reading a plurality of images recorded at

different time points from said data storage means, and synthesizing and displaying said images in a single screen.

14. A recording medium according to claim 13,
5 wherein a plurality of said images recorded at different time points are a plurality of image contents recorded at different time points or a plurality of images recorded at different time points in a given one image content.

15. A recording medium according to claim 13,
10 wherein the special reproducing functions including at least one of rapid feed and pause is performed on the image contents selected arbitrarily by user interface means.

16. A recording medium according to claim 13,
15 wherein a plurality of the image contents stored in said data storage means are converted into a data base capable of being searched and sorted, and at least one of the image contents included in a group of image contents searched for and sorted from said data base and
20 reproduced and synthesized at the same time is displayed in a single screen in accordance with the information input from said user interface means.

17. A recording medium according to claim 13,
25 wherein the image contents selected through said user interface means are changed to other image contents and the resulting image contents are synthesized with the generating image contents and displayed in a single screen.

18. A recording medium according to claim 13,
30 wherein only the sound corresponding to the image contents reproduced in the reproduction display area selected by said user interface means is output.